

Community Building Institute - Facilitators

August 2010

Beki Brandborg

Beki Brandborg works as a meeting facilitator and mediator in Helena. In the past she has worked as the Development Director for the Montana Democratic Party and as a trainer and consultant for the Northern Rockies Action Group. Beki volunteers with the Montana Legal Services Association B-SAFE program and the Elkhorn Housing Development Corporation. In addition, she serves as a board member for the Home Choice Coalition, Pheasant Glen Housing, Helena Housing Development Corporation, and Montana Shares. Beki graduated from the American University MBA program in Washington DC, and received a BA in both Sociology and Psychology from Salisbury State College in Salisbury MD.

LaNette Diaz

LaNette Diaz currently lives in Missoula, Montana. As a native Montanan she provides valuable insight into the economic, social and political system of social services. She has a Master in Social Work with an emphasis in Community Organizing and Organizational Development. LaNette was a VISTA volunteer and she served as a VISTA Leader, which gives her a strong perspective of the State of Montana AmeriCorps programs. Currently, LaNette serves as the Executive Director for CASA of Missoula. Being involved in community organizing and non-profit management has given LaNette knowledge about the need for organizational development, planning and building a strategy to succeed.

Maxine Jacobson

Maxine Jacobson is the founder and director of PRAXIS – Generating Knowledge for Action, an organization that facilitates community-based participatory research, conducts program and community evaluations, and provides training on community organizing, coalition development, and research skills. She has a PhD in Social Work from the University of Utah. Maxine is a Research Associate Professor affiliated with the School of Social Work at the University of Montana where she taught courses on research, program evaluation, community organizing, and group work for 8 years. For the past 5 years her organizing and research interests have focused on local food systems and food security.

Pat Murphy

Pat Murphy has been a trainer for over 15 years in the fields of leadership, communication, coalition building, family support, Myers-Briggs and volunteer management. She holds a M.A. in Communication Studies and a B.A. in Social Work from The University of Montana. Pat retired from the University of Montana after 30 years of service. At UM she instituted the campus service-learning and the student leadership development programs. She is currently a trainer and consultant for businesses, nonprofits, and national service. Pat served a two-year term on the Montana Commission for Community Service and currently sits on the board of Emma's House, a child advocacy center located in Hamilton. She completed three years with the Western Montana Literacy Support Corps AmeriCorps program where she focused on building community coalitions, training members, and creating school family resource centers.

Seth Lutter

Seth Lutter came from Central Florida in the Summer of 2008 to serve as a VISTA in Great Falls, Montana. Throughout his term as a VISTA, Seth wrote television and radio commercials, and also created a state-wide campaign for families to recognize systematic financial planning. After his term as a VISTA finished, he was hired by Rural Dynamics Inc. to continue his work with Communications and ultimately bring support to their Counseling Department.

Steve Cape

Steve Cape served as an AmeriCorps Volunteer with Montana Making \$ense for two years developing and teaching financial Literacy courses in Great Falls and communities across the State. Steve became an AmeriCorps volunteer after having a successful career in the private sector; he is now the Education Program Manager for Education at RDI.

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